

The following recitation of claims supersedes all previous recitations.

In the Claims:

Claims 7 and 12: Cancelled.

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~substantially neat~~ liquid ionic compound comprising a cation which is a complex of a neutral liqand selected from the group consisting of organic substituted and unsubstituted alkyl amines and crown ethers with a metal ion selected from the group consisting of Ag^+ , Zn^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , Co^{3+} and Fe^{3+} and an anion which is a conjugate anion of the metal ion, said cation and said anion comprising a substantially new liquid.

2. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which is a liquid below 100°C .

3. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 2 which is a liquid at room temperature.

4. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which is electrically conductive in the absence of a solvent.

5. (Previously Presented) An ionic liquid according to claim 1 which is hydrophobic.

6. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 wherein said neutral organic liqand is a crown ether.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 wherein said conjugate anion is bis(trifluoromethane)sulfonimide, boron trifluoride, nitrate, sulfate, phosphate, hexafluorophosphate and dicyanamide.
9. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a substantially neat ionic liquid comprising mixing a neutral ligand selected from the group consisting of organic substituted and unsubstituted amines and crown ethers with a metal ion selected from the group consisting of Na^+ , K^+ , Li^+ , Ca^{2+} , Ag^+ , Zn^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and Fe^{3+} and with the salt of a metal cation and its conjugate anion at room temperature.
10. (Original) A method according to claim 9 wherein said neutral organic ligand is a crown ether.
11. (Original) A method according to claim 10 wherein the metal cation is selected from the group consisting of sodium potassium, lithium and calcium.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 wherein said metal cation is selected from the group consisting of silver, zinc, copper, cadmium, nickel, mercury and iron.
14. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 9 wherein said conjugate anion is bis(trifluoromethane)sulfonamide, boron trifluoride, nitrate, sulfate, phosphate, hexafluorophosphate and dicyanamide.
15. (Original) A method according to claim 9 which is performed at room temperature.

16. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which may be used as a solvent.

17. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which may be used for gas liquid separation.

18. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which may be used for solvent extraction.

19. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 4 which is used in electrical devices.

20. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which is used as a heat transfer fluid.